

USSN 10/052 468

REMARKS

This Response is offered in reply to the office action of November 4, 2003. A petition and fee for a one month time extension is requested.

Claim 23 has been amended to insert the word "in" which was present in the original claim 23 and inadvertently omitted in the presentation of claim 23 in the previously-filed Response To Office Action of July 21, 2003. Favorable consideration of the amendment to claim 23 is requested.

Applicant appreciates allowance of claims 1-23 and 25 as set forth in paragraph 5 of the office action.

In paragraph 2 of the office action, claim 24 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) in view of Udagawa US Patent 6 250 645 taken with Udagawa US Patent 6 036 195.

Applicant disagrees with this rejection. However, in order to advance prosecution of this application, Applicant has cancelled claim 24 and made it the subject of a continuation application for further prosecution.

As a result, only allowed claims 1-23 and 25 remain in this application such that the application can now be passed to issue.

Entry of this amendment and passing of the application to issue is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "E. J. Timmer", followed by a horizontal line.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service under 37 CFR 1.8 as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 4, 2004.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Edward J. Timmer', written over a horizontal line.

Edward J. Timmer

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